

**Minutes  
State Board of Education  
Monday, March 31, 2003**

The Arizona State Board of Education held a meeting at the Arizona State University Downtown Extended Campus, 502 E. Monroe, Phoenix, AZ 85006. This meeting began at approximately 9:05 am.

**Members Present**

Dr. Wade McLean; President  
Ms. Nadine Mathis-Basha; Vice President  
Dr. Matthew Diethelm  
Dr. Michael Crow  
Superintendent Tom Horne  
Ms. Armida Bittner  
Ms. JoAnne Hilde  
Ms. Catherine Kasper

**Members Absent**

Ms. Conkie Hoover

***President's Report***

President McLean reported to the Board and to those in the audience about topics that the Board will address in this meeting; Early Childhood Education Standards, NCLB/AZLEARNS integration, and the articulated math and reading standards. Dr. McLean spoke to how much work everyone in the education community has in front of them and the necessity to convey to our Legislators the need to keep complete funding for education as we move forward on these essentials to educate our Arizona's children.

***Superintendent's Report***

Superintendent Horne recognized ADE staffers Chris Castillo- for her work in the Microcomputers conference and for her communication with education tech representatives, and Marie Mancuso- for being selected by the USDOE to review other states Reading First applications. Mr. Horne thanked them for their hard work and effort toward Arizona's education system.

***Board Member Reports***

Ms. Basha asked that the Board move item 5A- Phoenix Holocaust Survivors' Association recognition up on the agenda.

Dr. McLean and fellow Board members agreed and moved directly to the Holocaust Survivors' recognition.

***General Session- Item 5A: Phoenix Holocaust Survivor's Association Recognition Presentation***

President McLean began with remarks about the organization and their tremendous efforts in reaching out to students across the state and nation to spread their message on the horrific nature of the Holocaust and how pleased the Board is to be recognizing them. Dr. McLean asked those in the association to come to the microphone and begin their presentation. He stated that the Tucson Association would be recognized at a separate time in the Tucson area. Dr. Kader (current PHSA president) introduced the Association and its mission and purpose in forming such a group to educate the community. He then turned the stage over to two survivors of the Holocaust to speak about their experiences and their ability to share their story about this horrible part of Jewish history. Mr. Carl Ofisher and Ms. Dolly Redner spoke about their

experiences in the Holocaust and how they are spreading the message to following generations and the difficulty they each had in their initial presentations talking about their childhood experiences. Additionally, they spoke about the appreciation they have heard from the schools they speak at. President McLean and Vice-President Basha presented the award to the PHSA. (President McLean then returned to the scheduled agenda)

### ***Board Member Reports***

Dr. Diethelm reported on the Governor's call for public and private partnerships to create greater collaboration.

Ms. Hilde agreed with Dr. Diethelm's statements on the all day kindergarten discussion.

Ms. Basha reported on her group in the Governor's seminar on public/private partnerships that discussed dropout prevention. Additionally, she discussed her meeting with WestEd.

Ms. Bittner reported on her attendance to the ADE seminar on NCLB and AZ LEARNS integration and how productive it was to hear the many concerns voiced by the education community and how the Department will be addressing them; specifically on the middle school certification issues.

Ms. Bittner also reported the Ms. Hilde and Ms. Farley were there as well.

### ***Director's Report***

Ms. Farley started by stating the Legislative update will be brief as there is no further update on the budget and the SBE requested bill had been moved through the Senate committees successfully with much support by the education community at large; further, that the fingerprinting bill has moved through the Senate and is expected to pass if politics doesn't get in the way of the necessity of this legislation. Ms. Farley also stated that she has contacted each Senate Education Committee member to express the Boards support for the AZLearns modification bill being heard today, but because of the Board meeting, SBE members are unable to personally express support in the hearing today.

Ms. Farley discussed the SBE subcommittees and the jurisdiction the Board has over each. She pointed out upcoming vacancies in several of these subcommittees. She elaborated on the charter school review committee and the certification advisory committees. Ms. Farley also provided a brief overview on requests to develop rules on education interpreters. Ms. Basha asked that staff provide the location information, i.e. Southern Arizona, Northern Arizona, for each person applying for a position. Ms. Farley stated that staff is currently working on such a list of current appointees.

### ***Public Comments***

President McLean began the public comment session by commenting that many people have come to speak on the ELL issue, but that this Board meeting may not be the most efficient and/or appropriate venue to discuss their support or opposition for recent policies issued by the Superintendent. He asked Superintendent Horne to make a few remarks. Superintendent Horne stated that the SBE has no control of the ELL issue but that the ADE is responsible for its development and implementation. He further mentioned that on the April 23<sup>rd</sup> the ADE would be sponsoring a public comment session to hear concerns on this issue. President McLean then opened the public comment to individuals

who still felt the need to speak today. The following people who wished to speak:

▫ *English Language Learners Issue*

*Against*

Alicia Alvarez, Parent  
Angelina Cervantes, Longview Elementary School  
Anne Marie Cardinal, Parent  
Delia Saenz  
Dulce Juarez, Camelback High School  
Guadalupe Cervantes, Longview Elementary School  
Nora Carrizosa, Tertulia  
Rosie Lopez, Arizona Hispanic Community Forum  
Silverio Garcia, Jr., LULAC  
Silvia Benitez, Parent  
Sue Kovarick, Creighton School District

*For*

Clyde Phillips, English for the Children  
Gloria Hamilton, English for the Children  
Johanna Haver, Parent  
Maria Mendoza, English for the Children  
Salvador Gabaldon, TABE

▫ *Reading First Grant Award- Item 5D*

Dr. Berta Walder, Laveen Elementary School  
Further information is available on the meeting tape.

***Consent Items***

President McLean introduced the consent items to the Board. Dr. Diethelm commented on how excellent the CDC grant acceptance is but would like to see the goal increased and that the educational technology grant is a great thing for this state. Dr. Diethelm, then, motioned to approve the consent agenda items 4A-4G. Motion seconded by Ms. Basha. Approved unanimously.  
(10-minute break called by Dr. McLean- reconvened by Dr. McLean at 11:00)

Motion to Approve  
Items 4A-4G.  
Approved

***General Session***

▫ *Presentation and Discussion of the Draft Early Childhood Education Standards*

Superintendent Horne introduced the item, mentioning this new program will be under Associate Superintendent of Federal Programs Lillie Sly and introduced Karen Woodhouse Director of a new division for Early Childhood Education.

Karen Liersch presented the standards from development stages to draft form to the Board. She explained the extensive work it took to develop these standards and how the Early Childhood unit met every month with constituents over the past year to develop a mutually agreed upon set of procedures. Ms. Liersch explained that these draft standards are aligned with the K-3 academic standards before the Board today. She introduced two women who were part of the standards development team to address the Board. Ms. Basha stated that she has heard much excitement about these standards around the community. Susan Pimental from StandardsWork, a national facilitator who assisted in this project, reiterated the extensive process by which these standards were developed and Lizzie Z. Menefee, EvenStart Coordinator from Nogales, felt privileged to have served in the standards development group. President McLean asked if the Board would be taking action on this in

Discussion Only

the future; Ms. Farley responded by saying yes. President McLean then moved to the next agenda item.

▫ *Presentation and Consideration to Approve the Arizona Academic Standards Articulated by Grade Level for Reading and Math*

Associate Superintendent of Standards and Accountability Pat Loughrin introduced this item to the Board and reminded them that these were the standards presented to the Board at the November 2002 meeting. Dr. Ron Carriveau, Deputy Associate Superintendent for Standards and Assessment, gave the presentation to the members, updating the presentation from November to explain changes made as a result of feedback. Dr. Diethlem asked if there was any standard that some people were terribly opposed to? Dr. Carriveau said nothing in particular but several items had concerns and they were resolved with a mutually agreed upon choice. Dr. McLean asked for a motion. Dr. Diethlem moved to approve the Arizona Articulated Standards by Grade Level in Reading and Math as presented to the Board. Ms. Hilde seconded the motion. Approved unanimously.

Motion to Approve  
Presented Arizona Articulated  
Standards in Reading and  
Math for K-8 and High School  
Approved

▫ *Presentation and Consideration to Approve the Reading FIRST Grant Award*

Ms. Loughrin introduced this item to the Board for Marie Mancuso to present. Ms. Mancuso presented a PowerPoint presentation (please refer to printed slide handouts). After the presentations the Board members proceeded to ask questions of Ms. Mancuso. Dr. Crow questioned the criteria and method for choosing those schools that were eligible for the grant's funds; and further, what are we expecting to be the final impact from this around the state. Dr. Crow also asked if ADE had reached out across Arizona to the rural districts as well for this grant award? President McLean asked if anyone needed more information about Laveen Elementary School District and the situation presented during Call to the Public. Ms. Bittner was concerned and questioned about when those schools that did not receive funds this round could reapply. Further, Superintendent Horne wanted to clarify that the Department staff does not do the judging themselves but has outside reviewers evaluate each application. President McLean asked for a motion. Ms. Basha moved to approve the proposed contract to provide for reading first grand awards to the schools listed as presented. Dr. Diethelm seconded. Unanimously approved.

Motion to Approve  
Proposed Contract to Provide  
for Reading First Grant  
Awards to the presented  
schools.  
Approved.

23 Awards  
28 Declines  
51 Applications  
Second Round in Three years

▫ *Consideration to Approve Additional National Accrediting Organizations for Early Childhood Block Grant Preschool Programs*

Ms. Lynn Dulin, Director of Student Services at ADE, presented to the Board to approve the addition of one more accrediting organization to the previously approved accreditors for early childhood programs. With no discussion, President McLean asked for a motion. Ms. Bittner moved to approve adding Association Montessori International to the list of Board approved accreditation organization for preschool programs. Ms. Basha seconded and motion passed unanimously.

Motion to Approve  
Additional National  
Accrediting Organization for  
Early Childhood Block Grant  
Preschool Programs  
Approved

- *Consideration to Close the Record and Approve Notice of Final Rulemaking for R7-2-306, Regarding English Language Learner Programs and Discussion of the Status of the Open Docket for R7-2-306*

Ms. Farley presented discussed that this item to close the record for the first round of ELL rule making. She reminded the Board about the discussions in the November 2002 Board meeting and the January 2003 meeting where the notice of supplemental rulemaking was approved. This process was chosen after staff held meetings in early January 2003 with the interested parties, including Mr. Tim Hogan and ADE staff and this was agreed to. In January a second docket was also opened to discuss adjustments of these rules and additional rules necessary for full compliance with all the laws relating to ELL's. A meeting is scheduled for April 15<sup>th</sup> to meet with the constituencies on this second round of rules. . No discussion. Dr. Diethelm motioned to close the record and approve notice of final rulemaking for R7-2-306 regarding ELL programs. Motion seconded by Ms. Hilde and approved unanimously.

Motion to Approve  
Closing the Record and  
Approving the Notice of Final  
Rulemaking for  
ELL R7-2-306.  
Approved

### ***Executive Session***

The Board moved into an executive session to receive legal advice regarding the open meeting law. The Board reconvened at 12:30pm for the Accountability Study Session

15 Minute Executive Session

### ***NCLB/AZLEARNS, Accountability Information Session***

Director of Research and Policy Dr. Ildiko Laczko-Kerr and Policy Analyst Garrett Holm presented to the Board the current AZLearns formula and proposed modification (please refer to slide printout). After the presentation President McLean opened the discussion to those in the audience.

Panfilo Contreras, ASBA- was concerned at the local level with the need for some flexibility in determining meeting 95% of students tested. This will be very difficult to meet. District appointed that AZLearns modifications did not eliminate labeling of governing board members- trying to get an amendment in the Senate.	ADE: responded that they are suggesting that allowance be given to provide for average absence rate.
John Pedicone, Flowing Wells Elementary District- questioned if ADE has used compensatory model rather than gap reduction model like AYP. Will AZLearns be presenting this as an option in our plan?  John Pedicone: Is intention to have one common model? Districts are concerned with trying to address two systems. Where are we in getting a single aligned model?	ADE: proposes integrating AYP with our model to mitigate impacts of AYP. ADE intends to present the compensatory model for approval by the state board.  ADE: the Superintendent is working on this but doesn't want to lose state model and resort to the federal model, as it has numerous problems.
Gary Nine, Apache Junction- proposed using four years of data for the rolling average versus the use of three years of data to eliminate previous inconsistencies with testing requirements. Additionally, when we integrate special education students testing at grade level, we will see a dip in scores; how do we compensate for that?	ADE: will be sending out guidance soon concerning the standard and non-standard testing of special education students, however, this is an NCLB requirement to test all students at grade level. We have spoken with the USDOE about this in a peer review session, but it remains a federal requirement.

John Wright, AEA- questioned the “n” size variable and said some states have used different numbers for reporting versus accountability systems. Additionally, he said some states plan to balloon annual measurable objectives at later dates and asked if we would so this?	ADE: Arizona would use “n” of 30 for both, but will continue to report test data according to FERPA at the 5-10 level. Arizona is currently looking at some plateaus.
John Wright- Asked what the plan is for districts? NCLB requires LEA’s to be evaluated for AYP, but AZLearns does not provide for district profiles.	ADE: the Superintendent wants to submit to the legislature a proposal next year to have districts and charter holders under the AZLearns process.
Paul Smiley, ASBCS- mentioned that the formula approved last year was perceived as complicated and to not have much buy in, how are we addressing this?	ADE: we have attempted to go out and do grassroots efforts...we have spoken at every seminar, teacher seminars, and conference invited to. We have tried to build a large base of informed constituents. And, we would be happy to speak to anybody at anytime about this.
John Pedicone, Flowing Wells Elementary District- stated that districts will have a huge burden to pick-up mobile students.	ADE: agreed with the statements. Changing federal law is not going to happen in the next year, but so far ADE has seen some flexibility and if we continue to place pressure on the federal government, there may be hope to be successful. Districts will only be responsible for mobile students within the district; the state will be responsible for those between districts.
President McLean, SBE- questioned what happens to schools currently in school improvement for Title I? Further what is in our future for school take-over?	ADE: NCLB has three years of school improvement without making AYP before a change in school leadership occurs. USDOE has not yet provided for how that will actually occur.
Superintendent Horne- suggested a follow-up meeting on this before submittal for April 30 <sup>th</sup> , including the possibility of a separate meeting if not ready by the April Board meeting.	To run through the time line, a skeletal plan must be submitted to the USDOE by May 1, 2003.
Dr. Diethlem- requested that he might have a meeting to discuss the details of this data and plan with the ADE Accountability/Standards staff.	

▫ *Adjourned*  
At approximately 3:00pm.